Religious Studies GCSE

Exam board: AQA
Code: 8062

Religious Studies course overview

Religious Studies provides students with a unique opportunity to understand British heritage, plurality, values and futures. It also provides a space to explore their own identity, to learn to respect others, and to understand their own and others' rights and responsibilities.

"For the unexamined life is not worth living" ~ Socrates

The chosen GCSE course is an engaging and exciting introduction to controversial philosophical and ethical issues that may be encountered in the world around us. Students will engage in debates and discussions to prepare them for the extended writing they will begin later in the year. All students will study GCSE Religious Studies in Years 10 & 11, and will follow the course outlined below:

How is the course accessed?

Two written exams (50% each): 1 hour 45 minutes each.

Component 1: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices. Students will explore beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Buddhism in depth.

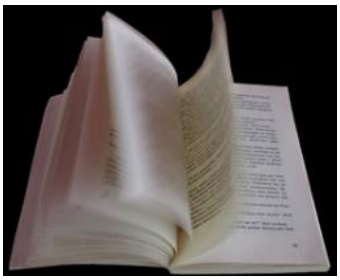
Component 2: Thematic Studies . For component 2 we are studying:

- Theme A: Relationships and families
- Theme B: Religion and Life
- Theme D: Peace and conflict.
- Theme E: Crime and punishment.

These four themes are explored from the perspective of several religious views, and allow students to apply their own beliefs to 'big questions' as well as the knowledge they have gained from their study of Christianity and Buddhism.

There is no coursework requirement.

Is this course for you?



- Religious Studies has a Religious Studies is a multidisciplinary course, meaning it covers many academic fields and skills and involves textual study, philosophical thinking, social understanding and the skills of analysis and reasoning as well as developing core skills of literacy
- students will explore issues through debates and discussions; enabling them to develop key oracy skills, and the ability to form a valid argument.

What could this course lead to?

Knowledge of other cultures and world religious beliefs can be useful in many jobs where you are working with the public or communities. These include social services, marketing, advertising, catering and hospitality, journalism, education, medicine and nursing, and many more.

You will gain problem solving skills, patience, communication and analytical skills – all of which are skills employers look for in a candidate. In short, Religious Studies can lead you anywhere!

Who can I contact for further advice or support?

Mrs J Carr, Head of Department: jcarr@tcolc.aspirelp.